

control means for selecting one of the stored tag names for each of the images;

a processor for assigning the selected tag names to each of the images captured by the image sensor, wherein each tag name provides classification of two or more captured images;

means for generating an image file including the digital image data corresponding to the captured images and a separate tag name file for each selected tag name;

a removable memory for storing each of the image files into the tag name file corresponding to the selected tag name, wherein the removable memory stores two or more tag name files with each tag name file storing two or more image files; and

means responsive to the single computer initiated request for identifying a particular tag name for transferring all of the image files stored in the corresponding tag name file to the external computer via the cable interface.

[Please amend claim 2 as set forth below:]

2. (ONCE AMENDED) An electronic camera as claimed in claim 1 wherein the memory is firmware and the tag names are default categories stored in the firmware.

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cont.
[Please amend claim 3 as set forth below:]

3. (ONCE AMENDED) An electronic camera as claimed in claim 2 wherein the control means includes a status display for showing the default categories and the control means selects a particular one of the default categories from those displayed on the status display.

[Please amend claim 4 as set forth below:]

4. (ONCE AMENDED) An electronic camera as claimed in claim 3 wherein the control means includes a first control interface for cycling through the default categories one-by-one and displaying each category individually, and a second control interface for selecting a displayed category.

[Please amend claim 5 as set forth below:]

5. (ONCE AMENDED) An electronic camera as claimed in claim 1 wherein the tag names included in the output image data is associated with the digital image data in a distinct file location.

[Please amend claim 6 as set forth below:]

6. (ONCE AMENDED) An electronic camera as claimed in claim 1 wherein the tag names included in the output image data is overlaid into the image data.

[Please amend claim 7 as set forth below:]

7. (TWICE AMENDED) An electronic camera as claimed in claim 1 wherein the camera further comprises a signal port for receiving externally generated user customized tag names, and wherein the processor also stores the externally generated user customized tag names in the memory and the control means is further capable of selecting a particular one of the externally generated user customized tag names.

[Please amend claim 8 as set forth below:]

8. (ONCE AMENDED) An electronic camera as claimed in claim 7 wherein the externally generated tag names are alphanumeric names.

[Please amend claim 9 as set forth below:]

9. (ONCE AMENDED) An electronic camera as claimed in claim 7 wherein the signal port also receives externally generated text strings for one or more of the tag names, and wherein the processor also stores the text strings in the memory with the tag names.

[Please amend claim 10 as set forth below:]

10. (ONCE AMENDED) An electronic camera as claimed in claim 7 wherein the signal port also receives externally generated graphics images for one or more of the tag names, and wherein the processor also stores the graphics images in the memory with the tag names.

[Please amend claim 11 as set forth below:]

11. (ONCE AMENDED) An electronic camera as claimed in claim 9 wherein the means for generating an image file overlays the text strings into the digital image data.

[Please amend claim 12 as set forth below:]

12. (ONCE AMENDED) An electronic camera as claimed in claim 10 wherein the means for generating an image file overlays the graphics images into the digital image data.

[Please amend claim 13 as set forth below:]

13. (ONCE AMENDED) An electronic camera as claimed in claim 1 wherein the memory stores a plurality of default tag names providing a default classification of the image by a set of codes, and wherein the camera further comprises a signal port for receiving externally generated tag names, the processor stores the externally generated tag names in the memory, and the control means preferentially accesses the externally generated tag names when they are stored in the memory.

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Cancel.
[Please amend claim 14 as set forth below:]

14. (ONCE AMENDED) An electronic camera as claimed in claim 13 wherein the processor includes date and time information with the externally generated tag names.

[Please amend claim 15 as set forth below:]

15. (THREE TIMES AMENDED) An electronic imaging system using an electronic camera as claimed in claim 7 in combination with the external computer, wherein the external computer provides the externally generated user customized tag names to the signal port.

[Please amend claim 26 as set forth below:]

Sub D Y 26. (ONCE AMENDED) An electronic camera as claimed in claim 7 wherein the signal port connects to the removable memory card.

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[Please amend claim 27 as set forth below:]

27. (THREE TIMES AMENDED) An electronic imaging system as claimed in claim 15 wherein the signal port connects to the removable memory, and the external computer provides the externally generated user customized tag names tag names to the signal port by writing the categories into the removable memory.

[Please amend claim 28 as set forth below:]

28. (THREE TIMES AMENDED) An electronic imaging system as claimed in claim 15 wherein the cable interface is provided between the signal port and the external computer, and the external computer provides the externally generated user customized tag names over the cable interface to the signal port.

[Please amend claim 29 as set forth below:]

29. (THREE TIMES AMENDED) An electronic camera for capturing images representing a variety of subjects and for providing captured images to an external computer in response to a single computer initiated request, wherein the electronic camera is interconnected to the external computer via a cable interface, said camera comprising;

an image sensor for capturing the images;

a converter stage for converting the images into digital image data;

a memory for storing two or more tag names providing classification of the images;

control means for selecting one of the stored tag names for each of the images;

a processor for assigning the selected tag names to each of the images captured by the image sensor, wherein each tag name provides classification of two or more captured images;

means for storing the digital image data in image files;

means for storing each of the image files into a tag name file corresponding to the selected tag name, wherein two or more tag name files are stored and each tag name file stores two or more image files; and

means responsive to the computer initiated request for identifying a particular tag name for transferring all of the image files stored in the corresponding tag name file to the external computer via the cable interface.

[Please amend claim 30 as set forth below:]

30. (AS TWICE AMENDED) A method using an electronic camera for capturing images representing a variety of subjects and for providing captured images to an external computer in response to a single computer initiated request, wherein the electronic camera is interconnected to the external computer via a cable interface, said method comprising the steps of:

storing two or more tag names providing classification of the images;

selecting, by a user control, one of the stored tag names for each of the images;

assigning the selected tag names to each of the images before the images are captured by the electronic camera, wherein each tag name provides classification of two or more images;

capturing the images with the electronic camera;

converting the images into digital image data;

generating, by a camera processor, an image file including the digital

image data corresponding to the captured images and a separate tag name file for each selected tag name;

storing each of the image files into the tag name file corresponding to the selected tag name, wherein the camera stores two or more tag name files with each tag name file storing two or more image files; and

identifying, in response to a computer initiated request, a particular tag name and transferring all of the image files stored in the tag name file corresponding to the identified particular tag name to the external computer via the cable interface.

Please delete claim 34.

Please amend claim 35 as set forth below:

35. (ONCE AMENDED) The electronic camera according to claim 1 wherein the tag name is selected on the computer.

[Please amend claim 36 as set forth below:]

36. (TWICE AMENDED) The electronic camera according to claim 35 wherein the tag names are communicated from the electronic camera to the computer via the cable interface, and the at least one particular tag name is selected on the computer and downloaded to the electronic camera via the cable interface.

[Please amend claim 37 as set forth below:]

37. (ONCE AMENDED) The electronic camera according to claim 29 wherein the tag name is selected on the computer.

[Please amend claim 38 as set forth below:]

38. (TWICE AMENDED) The electronic camera according to claim 37 wherein the tag names are communicated from the electronic camera to the computer via the cable interface, and the at least one particular tag name is selected on the computer and downloaded to the electronic camera via the cable interface.

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed December 20, 2000 the Examiner noted that claims 1-15, 26-31 and 33-38 and rejected all claims. Claims 1-15, 26-30 and 35-38 have been amended and claim 34 has been cancelled, and thus, in view of the forgoing, claims 1-15, 26-31, 33 and 35-38 remain pending for reconsideration which is requested. No new matter has been added. The Examiner's rejections are traversed